

# Tweet Chat #SOHC2013

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**Homeless Hub**  
@homelesshub

Welcome everyone to our first ever tweet chat! #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Homeless Hub**  
@homelesshub

We are joined by @SteveGaetz @donaldsonjesse @timrichter @TanyaMGulliver authors of the #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Homeless Hub**  
@homelesshub

We are joined by @SteveGaetz is the Director of @CHRNetwork and Associate Professor of @YorkUeducation #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

Hello everyone! Lets talk about the State of Homelessness in Canada @SteveGaetz @timrichter @TanyaMGulliver @donaldsonjesse #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Homeless Hub**  
@homelesshub

Our guest @donaldsonjesse is currently working with @unitedwayyork to further understand youth homelessness in the York Region #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Jesse Donaldson**

@donaldsonjesse

[@homelesshub](#) [@SteveGaetz](#) [@timrichter](#) [@TanyaMGulliver](#) Very happy to join [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Homeless Hub**

@homelesshub

We are also joined by [@timrichter](#) who is the President & CEO of the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Homeless Hub**

@homelesshub

And we have [@TanyaMGulliver](#) who is the Project Coordinator of [@CHRNetwork/](#)[@homelesshub](#)&PhD student of [#YorkU](#) Environmental Studies [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Tanya Gulliver**

@TanyaMGulliver

Glad to be here and to take questions [#sohc2013](#)

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**Homeless Hub**

@homelesshub

Thanks everyone for joining us. We will now open up the floor for questions. [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Olga O**  
@Olgatronics

Why is strong data on Canadian homelessness limited? Is research being currently conducted? #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Tanya Gulliver**  
@TanyaMGulliver

@olgatronics - happily research is improving but lack of funding for evaluation is an issue #sohc2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

@Olgatronics partly ability (data systems) To me the key to good data is asking good q's. Not been asking right 1's until recently #sohc2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

@homelesshub @Olgatronics As more communities conduct point-in-time-counts the data will improve #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

Homelessness is clearly a bit problem in Canada. But we now have better stats on it. [ow.ly/m97KH](http://ow.ly/m97KH) #sohc2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[#homelessness](#) is a seemingly intractable problem, but the good news is we are figuring out what to do about it. [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

There is a strong movement to collect better data on homelessness. We cannot tell if we are making a diff w/o it. [@OlgaTronics](#) [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Noah Kravitz**  
@NoahZKravitz

Q: Beside levels of government, where do you see the funding landscape shifting towards? [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@NoahZKravitz](#) I think Housing 1st & social impact financing are changing funder expectations; more pressure to reduce homelessness [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Homeless Hub**  
@homelesshub

Yes, [#HousingFirst](#) does work. As seen in our latest e-book [bit.ly/16OtQhT](http://bit.ly/16OtQhT) [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

I think we are learning more about what to do, and Housing 1st is one of the key solutions no [doubt.ow.ly/m97KH](http://doubt.ow.ly/m97KH) #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

in our report, we identify some communities that are making big progress, where there is innovation. [ow.ly/m97KH](http://ow.ly/m97KH) #SOHC2013

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**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

[@homelesshub](#) [@NoahZKravitz](#) As partnership working & joined-up efforts increase both municipally and provincially so will funding #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@donaldsonjesse](#) [@NoahZKravitz](#) I agree - more expectation of systemic responses, not solely programmatic #SOHC2013

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**Tanya Gulliver**  
@TanyaMGulliver

[@NoahZKravitz](#) - Raising the Roof has good research on the need for businesses to help end #homelessness #sohc2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@NoahZKravitz](#) All levels of govt need to be there, but so do communities and private sector. All benefit by solving homelessness [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Bernadette Grogan**  
@bergro30

[@homelesshub](#) [@donaldsonjesse](#) [@SteveGaetz](#) [#SOHC2013](#) what advice would you give to someone looking to work in the sector? Moving there soon

11 MONTHS AGO



**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

[@bergro30](#) [@homelesshub](#) [@SteveGaetz](#) Meet everyone you can for a coffee (or tea) from policy organisations, providers, academics! [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@homelesshub](#) [@bergro30](#) I'd also suggest volunteering at an organization you are interested in [#sohc2013](#)

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**Bernadette Grogan**  
@bergro30

[@donaldsonjesse](#) [@homelesshub](#) [@SteveGaetz](#) thank you!! Am good at tea & chats! A fave for meeting service users too! [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Bernadette Grogan**

@bergro30

[@homelesshub](#) [@donaldsonjesse](#) how welcoming are communities that homeless people are being housed in? Understanding or negative?

[#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Tanya Gulliver**

@TanyaMGulliver

[@bergro30](#) - our [#housingfirst](#) book we released yesterday shares good examples of working with neighbours [#sohc2013](#)

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**Bernadette Grogan**

@bergro30

[@SteveGaetz](#) similar to ireland then. Also differences between 'visible' homeless and ones in supported accom [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tim Richter**

@timrichter

[@bergro30](#) That's the beauty of scattered site Housing 1st. Once housed most are indistinguishable from anyone else [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tim Richter**

@timrichter

[@bergro30](#) At the [@calgaryhomeless](#) we put affordable housing in 20+ communities & we were welcomed but u need to negotiate & talk [#sohc2013](#)

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@timrichter @bergro30 Exactly. Warehousing people marginalizes them, creates stigma and makes homelessness a visible 'problem' #SOHC2013

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**Tanya Gulliver**  
@TanyaMGulliver

@timrichter @bergro30 good point Tim. When people are scattered they can absorb into the neighbourhood #SOHC2013

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**Sean French**  
@SeanFrench1

Q: Where does prevention fit in right now in state of homelessness in Canada? #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SeanFrench1 Prevention is key - we need to keep people from falling into homelessness, and ensure they are stably housed #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SeanFrench1 Prevention means discharge planning and support for people leaving prison, hospital and child protection #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@SeanFrench1](#) Prevention means effective interventions with landlords and tenants to avoid eviction #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@SeanFrench1](#) Housing 1st is prevention cuz it helps people who were homeless become stably housed & avoid a return to the streets #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@SeanFrench1](#) PRevention means effective strategies of targeting those at imminent risk of homelessness. Stop the flow!!! #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@homelesshub](#) [@SeanFrench1](#) 1/3 Unfortunately research from the US is showing most prevention is ineffective #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@homelesshub](#) [@SeanFrench1](#) 2/3 The key I think is methodically building a prevention system that works back from the shelter door #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@homelesshub](#) [@SeanFrench1](#) 3/3 Also critical to target pathways/systems travelled by greatest # of most vulnerable (eg jail) [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tanya Gulliver**  
@TanyaMGulliver

[@SeanFrench1](#) more communities are understanding the importance of prevention as a necessary strategy to end [#homelessness](#) [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Social Medicine BC**  
@SocialMedBC

[@homelesshub](#) How can we improve healthcare access for the homeless?  
[#sohc2013](#)

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**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

[@SocialMedBC](#) [@homelesshub](#) Some shelters have nurse practitioners on-site. Bringing healthcare accesses to vulnerable pops a plus [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

[@SocialMedBC](#) [@homelesshub](#) Hospitals can also work with communities to create discharge plans to reduce need for repeat visits [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tanya Gulliver**  
@TanyaMGulliver

@SocialMedBC have medical health ppl ask about housing status as a matter of practice #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

@homelesshub @SocialMedBC AWESOME question! Sadly, I think HC for homeless has to come from outside mainstream system #sohc2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC At Home/Chez Soi shows that when people are stably housed hru Housing 1st, their access to health care improves. #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC For those on the streets, outreach-based services, support getting ID like health cards important #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC For practitioners working with homeless, treatment plans must be tailored to special needs and circumstances. #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@SteveGaetz](#) [@SocialMedBC](#) because they access mainstream or they get it via HF team? [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Social Medicine BC**  
@SocialMedBC

[@timrichter](#) Any examples of non-mainstream HC services for homeless? [#sohc2013](#)

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@SocialMedBC](#) What works for people who are housed may not work if you are homeless living in a chaotic environment. [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@SocialMedBC](#) In Toronto three community health centres provide specialized services and support for people who are homeless [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@bergro30](#) There is usually housing available, even in tight rental markets. Rent supplements are key [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

@SocialMedBC For example @TheAlexCHC & community health centres that serve poor or marginalized #sohc2013

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**Social Medicine BC**  
@SocialMedBC

@stevegaetz That's great to know. Community health centres are more sustainable than expensive emergency services #sohc2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC RE: Health, can't forget nutritional vulnerability. Tarasuks research shows charitable food model DOESN'T meet needs #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC CHCs more sustainable flexible and with right staff can do amazing things #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

@SocialMedBC I believe the first free dental clinic for homeless youth was started at Shout Clinic in Toronto #SOHC2013

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**Social Medicine BC**  
@SocialMedBC

[@stevegaetz](#) Another non-mainstream resource is student-run clinics, the first of which started here in Vancouver [@CHIUS\\_UBC](#) [#sohc2013](#)

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**Angela**  
@Angela\_Day

Q: Is their room for ACT services 4 those suffering mental health issues a/o substance use before they become homeless? [#sohc2013](#)

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@Angela\\_Day](#) Good Q. Its also worth bringing up the necessity for harm reduction based approaches. Work where people are at. [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@Angela\\_Day](#) yes. Tend to find that in existing mainstream MH services [#SOHC2013](#)

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@timrichter](#) Q What are five key things you learned are necessary to solve homelessness? .ow.ly/m97KH [#SOHC2013](#)

11 MONTHS AGO



**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

@SteveGaetz 1/2 Only five!?! :) 1. Set the objective of ending homelessness. 2. Develop a community plan to end #homelessness #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

@SteveGaetz 2/2 3. Housing First 4. Build public & political support 5. Be relentless. #sohc2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

Q for @donaldsonjesse Is youth homelessness an important area of focus? #SOHC2013

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**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

@SteveGaetz @homelesshub (1/2) Youth homeless crucial to examine. We need to understand that experience of homelessness ... #SOHC2013

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**Jesse Donaldson**  
@donaldsonjesse

@SteveGaetz @homelesshub 2/2 differs for youth therefore solutions for ending youth homelessness need 2 be tailored to their needs #SOHC2013

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**Tim Richter**  
@timrichter

[@SteveGaetz](#) What advice would you give communities interested in Housing First or those HPS communities making the transition? #SOHC2013

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**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

[@timrichter](#) 1/2 a) The debate over whether it works is over: it does. b) Stay true to the core principles of Housing First #SOHC2013

11 MONTHS AGO



**Stephen Gaetz**  
@SteveGaetz

2/2 c) Learn from those who've gone before (like [@Timrichter](#)), At Home/ChezSoi & download free book on Housing First [@homelesshub](#) #SOHC2013

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**Homeless Hub**  
@homelesshub

Thanks again to all our participants. With the success of this tweet chat we will surely be organizing another one! #SOHC2013

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